

B. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Paragraph 31 (currently amended)

A tab plate is provided that allows the user to better hold and balance a plate filled with food and to grasp food served on the plate without directly touching the food. The presently disclosed tab plate includes a disposable plate with at least one articulated tab formed on the rim, able to be folded up and over the plate at selected fold lines, to aid in grasping the food contents of the plate. The full range of materials that are used to manufacture standard disposable plates may be used to manufacture a tab plate, including but not limited to paper or paperlike material, coated paper, cardboard, corrugated cardboard, [corrugated]corrugated plastic sheet, thermoformed plastic sheet, molded plastic, molded thermoplastic elastomer, molded foam, a composite of several of these materials, or any other thin, flexible material or combination of thin, flexible materials formed as one piece and incorporating a bendable hinge structure with one or more areas designed for bending.